

# The Daily Dispatch

September 18, 2017  
TODAY'S TOP NEWS

## Moody's sees 6.5% GDP growth for PH in 2017

Moody's Investor Service has pegged the gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for the Philippines at 6.5% in 2017, as sound economic and fiscal fundamentals offset structural challenges to competitiveness and rising political risks. The debt watcher said it expects the Philippine economy to further grow at 6.8% in 2018.

## Unified toll payment for 13 expressways by 2018

A total of 13 existing and under construction toll roads in Luzon will be operating on a single payment system by 2018. This was after the DOTr and DPWH signed a MOA with toll operators – groups under Metro Pacific Investments Corporation, San Miguel Corporation and Ayala Corporation – on Friday, September 15.

## PH needs more than P50B to rebuild Marawi

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said 50 billion pesos (\$975 million) will not be enough to rebuild the southern city of Marawi, citing massive damage caused by the conflict between government troops and Islamic State-linked militants that's been running for almost four months.

## More Korean firms leaving Philippines

Thousands of local jobs have been lost since late last year and hundreds more are set to follow in the coming months as the number of Korean manufacturing companies leaving the Philippines for Vietnam continues to rise.

## DOF to submit 2nd tax reform package next year

In an interview last Friday, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez said the DOF has moved the target submission of the second CTRP package from the fourth quarter of 2017 to early next year as it concentrates first on its fight for the first tax reform bill in the Senate and the bicameral committee.

## Philippine Stock Market Update



**Previous Close:**

8,018.05

**1 Yr Return:**

-0.34%

**Open:**

8,015.68

**YTD Return:**

15.58%

**52-Week Range:**

6,499.00 - 8,106.74

**Source:**

Bloomberg

## Foreign Exchange

As of Sept 15, 2017

US Dollar	Philippine Peso
1	51.245

## PDST-R2 Rates

As of Sept 15, 2017

Tenor	Rate
1Y	2.8978
3Y	3.6316
5Y	4.5643
7Y	4.3449
10Y	4.5631
20Y	5.1135

## Daily Quote

"To conquer fear is the beginning of wisdom."

--Bertrand Russell

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## MORE LOCAL NEWS

### RLC to expand solar power production

Robinsons Land Corp. (RLC), the property developer of Gokongwei-led JG Summit Holdings, will expand its solar power production to 19 million kilowatt-hours from 15 million kWh at present. This is in line with the company's goal to become the dominant renewable energy generator among Philippine property developers.

### Solar Phil. shifting focus to rural development

From serving shopping malls and residents of urban areas like Metro Manila, Solar Philippines is now shifting its focus to rural development in line with its mission to provide cheap and reliable electricity to every Filipino.

### Business warns of losers in ASEAN

Euphoria and lots of movements are happening in ASEAN because of the economic integration that has been rolled out among the 10-member countries with over 600M population, but a reckoning may be felt 5-10 years into the horizon of who wins in this free competition and open market orientation trading bloc, a business leader has warned.

### PH external debt sheds \$5.2 B as of end-June

The country's outstanding external debt as of end-June this year was down by 6.7 percent or \$5.2 billion year-on-year to \$72.5 billion partly due to loan prepayments, according to Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Officer-In-Charge Diwa C. Guinigundo.

### 6 China firms vie for 2 infra projects

Six Chinese firms are vying for the first two big-ticket infrastructure projects to be rolled out through financing from China, Finance Secretary Carlos G. Dominguez III said.

### Common rail station to break ground on Sept. 29

The Department of Transportation has scheduled on Sept. 29 this year the groundbreaking for the construction of a common train station that would link as many as three elevated railway systems in Metro Manila, Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade said Friday.

### ERC sets aside order for P477-M payment to SCPC

THE Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) has granted the motion for reconsideration filed by two state agencies of its order for the payment of at least P477 million to Consunji-led Sem-Calaca Power Corp. (SCPC).

### Tender offer for LMG's 34% stake withdrawn

PRIVATE holding firm Newmanholdings, Inc. has withdrawn its tender offer to acquire the remaining 34% of listed chemical trader LMG Chemicals Corp. LMG's parent Chemical Industries of the Philippines, Inc. (CIP) said the withdrawal follows the termination of the share purchase agreement (SPA) between the company and

### AboitizPower prepares bid for Masinloc plant

ABOITIZ POWER Corp. is in the advanced stage of preparing its bid for AES Corp.'s controlling stake in the 630-megawatt (MW) coal-fired power plant in Masinloc, Zambales, its top official said.

## TODAY'S TOP ASIAN NEWS

### Superpower India to replace China as growth engine

India is poised to emerge as an economic superpower, driven in part by its young population, while China and the Asian Tigers age rapidly, according to Deloitte LLP. While the looming 'Indian summer' will last decades, it isn't the only Asian economy set to surge. Indonesia and the Philippines also have relatively young populations.

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## MORE ASIAN NEWS

### What the surging Yuan means for CH economy

The yuan's surge this year is proving a double-edged sword, risking hurting the nation's exports even while boosting the chances of capital control reforms. The exchange rate's 6% advance this year has crushed depreciation pressures, allowing policy makers the freedom to loosen capital outflow controls that may impact the currency.

### Central Group, JD.com announce \$500m JVs in TH

Thailand's largest retail conglomerate Central Group has teamed up with China's largest retailer JD.com and Provident Capital to establish two joint ventures in Thailand with an aggregate investment of up to \$500 million.

### ADB launches \$1.1bn funding support for IDN energy

Asian Development Bank (ADB) has launched a \$1.1 billion funding support for Indonesia's energy sector--considered key to promoting inclusive growth and sustainable development in the country.

### China Fosun to buy 74% stake in Gland Pharma

Shanghai Fosun Pharmaceutical Group Co. Ltd, a unit of China's Fosun Group, has agreed to acquire 74% of Indian drug company Gland Pharma Ltd for \$1.1 billion, the Chinese drugmaker said on Sunday, reviving a deal that was widely speculated to have been blocked by the Indian government

### TE eyes more work for China's C929 aircraft

TE Connectivity, which makes sensors and connectors for electronic systems, has delivered a vote of confidence in China's plane-making industry with plans for more supply deals and design work related to development of the C929 widebody aircraft.

## TODAY'S TOP GLOBAL NEWS

### BIS: World's central banks can't ignore Bitcoin

The world's central banks can't sit back and ignore the growth in cryptocurrencies as it could pose a risk to the stability of the financial system, according to the Bank for International Settlements. It said central banks will need to figure out whether to issue a digital currency and what its attributes should be.

### Northrop Grumman to purchase Orbital ATK

U.S. defense contractor Northrop Grumman Corp (NOC.N) is poised to announce a purchase of missile and rocket maker Orbital ATK Inc (OAN) as soon as Monday, a person familiar with the transaction said on Sunday.

### GM, China JV to recall 2.5M+ vehicles over airbags

General Motors (GM.N) and its joint venture in China, Shanghai GM, will recall more than 2.5 million vehicles due to faulty airbag inflators, China's top quality watchdog as said. The vehicles are equipped with airbag inflators produced by troubled Japanese manufacturer Takata Corp 7312.

### Asia stocks hit high, dollar firm before Fed mtg

Asian shares hit decade highs on Monday and the dollar held firm early in a week in which the U.S. Federal Reserve is likely to wrestle with its bloated balance sheet as part of a long reversal of super-cheap money worldwide.

## Economic Calendar

Date	Release
09.15.2017	PH: Overseas Remittances YoY
09.18.2017	PH: BoP Overall
09.21.2017	PH: BSP Overnight Borrowing Rate
09.28.2017	PH: Money Supply M3 SRF YoY
09.28.2017	PH: Bank lending YoY

Source: Bloomberg Economic Calendar